

Town of Upper Marlboro

REGULAR TOWN MEETING

November 12, 2019 • 7:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Commissioner Kai Bernal-LeClaire; Wanda Leonard, President of the Board of Town Commissioners; Linda Pennoyer, Commissioner/Treasurer

Staff present: M. David Williams, Town Clerk/Administrator; UMPD Chief Burse; William Morgan/Director of Finance; and, Superintendent Darnell Bond/Public Works.

Also present: EC Secretary Sarah Franklin; TUMHC Chair Patti Skews; Board of Supervisors of Elections (BoSE)-Joseph Hourclé and Ellen Storey; plus, various citizens and interested parties.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent to the Agenda

The President received unanimous consent to the Agenda.

Approval of Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

Commissioner Bernal-LeClaire motioned to approve the Regular Town Meeting minutes from October 8, 2019, the Board Work Session minutes from October 22, 2019, and, the Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2019. Commissioner Pennoyer seconded the motion. All October's Board Meetings and Treasurer's Report were unanimously approved.

Reports

Departments:

Chief Burse delivered the UMPD report for the month of October 2019, adding there had been two (2) theft reports and one (1) breaking & entering in the downtown area. He also noted that Sergeant Irby had completed his required field training and is now actively patrolling the Town.

Superintendent Bond delivered the Public Works report for October 2019, noting that all 26 storm drain inlets in Town have now been painted & stenciled with the wordage "Chesapeake Bay Drainage".

The Town Clerk reported that he had coordinated with an independent inspector to deliver a workshop at Town Hall on "Pipeline Safety" that Public Works and Public Safety personnel attended on Nov. 7th.

Committees:

TUMHC Chair Skews reported that the Committee assisted and exhibited at the Jack-O-Lantern Campfire at Darnall's Chance House Museum on October 19th; and the Trunk-or-Treat Event downtown on October 25th. She added the TUMHC delivered a learning session at the first Municipal Government Academy class held at Town Hall on November 6th, and that the committee's next Quarterly meeting will be held on November 16th starting at 10:00 a.m.

EC Secretary Franklin reported that the Events Committee reviewed the Trick-or-Treat Event at their last meeting, citing it was a great success. She noted they are currently in the planning process for the Town Holiday Party that will be held at the Marlboro Volunteer Firehouse this year on December 7th.

Commissioner Pennoyer reported for SCW Chair Stephens, stating that she had no report at his time.

CERT President Leonard noted that the UM CERT also attended the Pipeline Safety presentation, and that at their last meeting, the Team reported there were no troublesome incidents during the Trick-or-Treat Event downtown.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Bernal-LeClaire announced he had attended the MML Fall Conference in Cambridge on October 14-15th and found the sessions informative, and felt the material was relevant and helpful to the Town Board's work at hand.

Commissioner Pennoyer reported that she had also attended the Campfire Event at Darnall's Chance and the Town's Trick-or-Treat Event. She noted she also found the MML Fall Conference worthwhile.

President Leonard reported that the Town has recently launched a new parking APP and the new meters have been labeled accordingly. She then thanked all who have been participating in the Town's "Municipal Government Academy" (MGA) Sessions and invited interested citizens to join in on the upcoming classes being held on the first 3 Wednesdays in the month of November.

President Leonard then reported that a Request for Proposals (RFP) had been published for the Town's first playground to be located at The Town Hall, which are due in by November 11th. The next steps would be the review and selection process at the November Board Work Session, with a final vote at the November Regular Town Meeting. She also reported that she delivered the Welcome Speech at the County's "Purple Light Nights" Ceremony held at Prince George's Community College on October 2nd.

Business

Prior to each Business line item, the President opened the floor to public comment.

- 1) Proclamation: Municipal Government Works! Month: Clerk Williams read aloud the proclamation that acknowledges the Town's support and participation in the Maryland Municipal League's (MML) program observed each year throughout the month of November.
- 2) Oath-of-Office Ceremony: Board of Supervisors of Elections: Upon the Board's approval to reinstate the current slate of appointees to the Board of Supervisors of Elections (BoSE), President Leonard administered the Oath of Office to Joseph Hourclé and Ellen Storey.
- 3) Ordinance 2019-08 Elections-Authorizing Ballot Questions (introduction): A resident asked for clarification as to what questions would be on the ballot, to which Commissioner Bernal-LeClaire answered that the Ordinance only authorizes the placement of questions on the ballot but does not define those questions in this legislation. The President added that the specific questions would be in the form of a Resolution to be voted on at the December Town Meeting. The ordinance's introduction was then read aloud by the Clerk.
- 4) Ordinance 2019-09 Board Salaries (introduction): President Leonard noted that the passage of this ordinance would only apply to the next Board and not until the beginning of the next fiscal year (FY2021) starting on July 1, 2020. The ordinance's introduction was then read aloud by Clerk Williams. The President added it would be up for a vote at the December Town Meeting. A resident noted that the Charter requires all Town employee salaries to be set by ordinance.
- 5) Resolution 2019-11 PAMC Public Art: Commissioner Pennoyer reviewed the legislation which authorizes the Town to pursue grant funding to enhance the blank walls downtown. It was noted the deadline requirements for this particular grant necessitate a Board vote as soon as possible. The resolution's introduction was read aloud by the Clerk. Commissioner Bernal-LeClaire motioned to approve the Resolution and Commissioner Pennoyer seconded. With all in favor, the motion was unanimously passed.

Administrative Updates

- 6) Legislation, Projects and Initiatives: Director of Finance & Human Resources Director Morgan announced that the Town will fill the Code Officer position with a current Town staff member. President Leonard reviewed a list* of current projects and legislation currently being worked on by Town Staff. Items included: a.) MD Heritage Area expansion; b.) Playground RFP; c.) Parking Meter Upgrades; d.) Police Vehicles purchase; e.) Town Assets Inventory; f.) PEPCO/auto recharging stations; g.) PAMC Grant application; h.) Old Mill Road signage upgrades; i.) Western Branch Waterway Park; j.) UM Welcome Center (Old Stone Bldg.); k.) Chamber of Commerce

UM Branch; l.) Main Street Pocket Park; m.) Water Street Parking Lot; n.) Church St Lot paving; o.) Sasscer Field Splash-Park; p.) Annexation Phase II; q.) Census 2020 Outreach; r.) Maryland Lynching Project; s.) Sustainable Maryland Certified program; t.) Main Street Maryland program; u.) Food Truck regulation ordinance; v.) Personnel Compensation ordinance; w.) Establishing Police Department ordinance; and, x.) Emergency Operations ordinance. **List contains updated status notations and can be obtained by MPIA Request Form.*

7) General Board & Administrative Staff Items: No items were brought before the Board at this time.

Public Comment

A Town resident expressed concern that the new parking space on Water Street at Main hindered vehicle's ability to turn right. It was noted that this space closest to the intersection was already there, but the President stated that this issue will be brought to UMPD Chief Burse for assessment. The resident added that a Commercial Tow Truck has been utilizing the Church Street Parking Lot about 2-3 days per week and displacing gravel going in & out, presumably on-call. Lastly, she inquired as to the status of the Old Marlboro Elementary School (OMES.) The President replied there was no updated information as of yet.

Another resident asked about a parking issue for St. Mary parishioners who needed access to the rooftop parking at the C.A.B. Chief Burse offered direction for access.

A concerned resident asked the Board what their next step will be concerning the OMES de-designation as a historic site. It was noted that there is a 60-day period following the Council's vote, to take action. Lastly, the resident cited Section 82-26 of the Town Charter concerning candidate petition requirements and noted the 2 requirements to get placed on the ballot were 2 two separate kinds of candidates, and that the candidate petition requiring 10 signatures was never completed by any candidates in the past.

BoSE member Hourcle concurred the ballot issue was confusing but saw both sides of the argument, suggesting the matter be addressed with a Charter Amendment in the near future. Secondly, he said he would like the Town to take legal action on the OMES issue.

Another resident said he was also disquieted by the fact the Board has not taken a stand on the OMES issue since the County vote to de-designate the historic OMES site.

Adjournment

President Leonard adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk/Administrator

